

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 124238

64

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 124238

TOSEC 86

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: OVIP

SUBJECT: KIRILENKO LAUDS FORTHCOMING SUMMIT

REFERENCE: STATE 123018 TOSEC 47

1. POLITBURO MEMBER KIRILENKO IN HIS JUNE 11 SPEECH CHARACTERIZED "THE TURN TO THE BETTER IN SOVIET AMERICAN RELATIONS" AS "ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT MANIFESTATIONS OF POSITIVE CHANGES IN THE INTERNATIONAL ARENA." THIS CAME ABOUT, HE SAID, "ABOVE ALL AS A RESULT TO TWO SUMMIT MEETINGS . . . A THIRD MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE LATE THIS MONTH. THIS VERY FACT STRESSES THAT THIS FORM OF POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS AND STRENGTHENING OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO STATES IS BECOMING REGULAR."

2. KIRILENKO, USUALLY CONSIDERED TO BE BREZHNEV'S RANKING PARTY DEPUTY, WAS FAR MORE EFFUSIVE THAN GROMYKO
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PAGE 02 STATE 124238

IN HIS SPEECH SUMMARIZED FOR YOU YESTERDAY, SEE REFERENCED

TELEGRAM. WHEREAS GROMYKO CAVEATED HIS POSITIVE CHARACTERIZATIONS, KIRILENKO IN THE ACCOUNTS AVAILABLE TO US STATED FLATLY THAT: "THE CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT ARE CONCENTRATING THEIR EFFORTS ON MAKING DETENTE DEEPER, ON MAKING IT IRREVERSIBLE, ON TURNING THE PRINCIPLES OF PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE INTO AN IMMUTABLE NORM OF INTERSTATE RELATIONS."

3. SIMILIARLY KIRILENKO'S CHARACTERIZATION OF THE "UNSAVORY" POSITION OF THE CHINESE LEADERS WAS MORE OUTSPOKEN. BOTH HE AND GROMYKO, HOWEVER, PLEDGED TO CONTINUE EFFORTS AIMED AT SETTling SOVIET CHINESE RELATIONS ALONG STATE LINES.

4. IN THE PAST KIRILENKO HAS GIVEN A MORE FAVORABLE ASSESSMENT OF DETENTE AND SOVIET-AMERICAN RELATIONS IN GENERAL THAN MOST OF HIS POLITBURO COLLEAGUES, ESPECIALLY IF COMPARED TO THE MORE NUANCED STATEMENT BY GROMYKO.

5. BREZHNEV, KOSYGIN AND PODGORNYY WILL BE SPEAKING IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS. "ELECTIONS" WILL TAKE PLACE ON JUNE 16. BROWN

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